

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 16815 191418 Z

43

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-12 TRSE-00 MBFR-03

SAJ-01 SS-15 NSC-10 H-02 OIC-04 IO-13 ACDA-19 OMB-01

AEC-11 AECE-00 RSR-01 DODE-00 /153 W
----- 127229

R 191247 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1110

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 16815

VIENNA FOR MPT DEL

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH VIEWS ON MBFR PARTICIPATION

REF: PARIS 14030

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PAGE 02 PARIS 16815 191418 Z

1. CONVERSATIONS WITH BOTH QUAI PACTS DIRECTOR AND ELYSEE DIPLOMATIC ADVISOR REVEAL FURTHER HARDENING IN NEGATIVE FRENCH VIEWS ON MBFR PARTICIPATION. NOTING FRENCH PLAN RESPOND TO ANY BREZHNEV PROPOSAL ON SUBJECT BY RESTATING THEIR WELL- KNOWN VIEWS, QUAI OFFICIAL COMMENTED THAT POMPIDOU' S WILLINGNESS AT JANUARY MINSK SUMMIT WITH BREZHNEV TO REVIEW MBFR PARTICIPATION HAS NOT CHANGED BUT THAT WILLINGNESS TO REVIEW IS " OFTEN A POLITE WAY OF SAYING NO."

2. BOTH QUAI AND ELYSEE OFFICIALS SAID FRENCH SEE LESS NEED THAN IN JANUARY TO PARTICIPATE IN MBFR. IN RESPONSE EMBOFF' S QUESTION, ELYSEE OFFICIAL SAID THIS VIEW WAS INSPIRED IN PART BY REPORTS OF BELGIAN, ITALIAN AND TO SOME EXTENT DUTCH DISSATISFACTION WITH NEGOTIATION PROCEDURES AT VIENNA AND BY GROWING BELIEF THAT MBFR AS BECOMING A BILATERAL U. S.- SOVIET OPERATION. FRENCH, HE IMPLIED, HAVE ENOUGH PROBLEMS ALREADY WITHOUT GETTING INTO ANOTHER INTER- ALLIED ISSUE.

3. EMBOFF NOTED THAT: (A) WHILE BELGIANS HAD MANIFESTED SOME CONCERN OVER PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS AT VIENNA, ALLIES WERE BY AND LARGE SATISFIED WITH ARRANGEMENTS; (B) NEGOTIATIONS WERE AND WOULD REMAIN MULTILATERAL EVEN IF EMPHASIS MIGHT BE PLACED ON U. S. AND SOVIET REDUCTIONS; AND (C) LATTER POSSIBILITY SHOULD PLEASE FRENCH GIVEN THEIR PREFERENCE FOR A STATIONED FORCES ONLY MBFR.

4. COMMENT. DISCUSSION REINFORCES VIEW REFTEL THAT ODDS ARE SHIFTING FURTHER AWAY FROM ANY EVENTUAL FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN MBFR. GDS
IRWIN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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30 JUN 2005

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PM
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SECSTATE WASHDC

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